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Approved For Release 2003/06/13 : CIA-RDP80R01731R000800060046-2

13 September 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

VIA: Deputy Director

SUBJECT: NSC 29

1. The implementation of the subject Directive has been discussed with the Executive for Inspections and Security and representatives of OSO. OPC considers that the assignment of this responsibility to CIA is sound, and that it might well be to the interest of CIA to undertake this project, particularly for the following reasons:

a. The project is one of obvious importance, the implementation of which will redound to the credit of CIA and which should, therefore, be of considerable assistance in justifying appropriations.

b. CIA already conducts certain functions which tie in as essential parts of the contemplated activity, and by undertaking the overall responsibility the CIA will have an opportunity to reinforce its role as a coordinating agency.

c. The project presents an opportunity to reinforce CIA's position in the field of overseas security operations.

2. The OPC believes that this project is one which should be conducted primarily on an overt basis and with the knowledge and consent of the nations concerned -- at least in all cases where the governments are "friendly" to the United States. The Department of State should be called upon to present the proposal to the foreign governments which are concerned through normal diplomatic channels and to conclude the necessary agreements with such governments. The covert offices of CIA might supplement the overt activity (OSO would participate in the field of counter-espionage). This Office is convinced, however, that it would be unnecessary and unwise to attempt the major part of this project as a covert operation. OSO

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TOP SECRET

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- 2 -

concur in the views expressed in this paragraph but dissents from the views expressed in paragraph 1.

3. Finally OPC is convinced that this project does not tie in with its contemplated activities and that its execution by OPC would divert this Office from its major objectives at the very moment it is beginning to function. For these additional reasons it is believed that this project should not be undertaken by OPC. OPC, however, would like to be closely informed as to the progress, execution, and results of this project, in order to determine (a) whether it can or should offer covert assistance, and (b) whether the project develops information which could be utilized in connection with the activities of OPC.



FRANK G. WISNER  
Assistant Director for  
Policy Coordination

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cc: Asst. Director, OSO  
Executive for I&S

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